

earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. During his time with the Huntington District, Mr. Kiser's duties included evaluating buildings for safe refuge from nuclear fallout, overseeing relocations of railroads and highways at major flood-control projects and navigation projects, and participating in emergency disaster recovery.

In 1974, Mr. Kiser was selected to lead the Relocations Branch of the Engineering Division in the Louisville District. His work involved many aspects of civil-works projects, including the design of Zilpo Road at Cave Run Lake, in northeastern Kentucky, which is now featured in a register of America's most scenic highways. Over the next 10 years, Mr. Kiser not only served the Louisville District, but was solicited by the Pittsburgh District and the Europe Division, in addition to earning a master's degree in civil engineering from Ohio State University. While assisting the Pittsburgh District, Mr. Kiser led the relocations associated with the Stonewall Jackson Dam Project and the Monongahela River Locks Renovation Project. During his time with the Europe Division, he managed military operations and maintenance projects totaling approximately \$200 million a year.

Mr. Kiser returned to the Louisville District in 1983 and was selected as chief of the Army Section in the newly established Military Branch that had been formed to oversee the Louisville District's military mission. Thanks to his leadership, vision, and dedication to duty, the Louisville District gained a reputation for excellence in execution that it retains to this day. Among the many major military installations Mr. Kiser helped oversee are Fort Campbell and Fort Knox, both in Kentucky, and many Army Reserve facilities nationwide.

During this time, Mr. Kiser extended his leadership well beyond his assigned missions. He mentored Captains Robert Rowlette and Mike Pratt, who both went on to become Corps of Engineers District Commanders. He worked on the Standardized Design Program Committee for the Corps of Engineers Headquarters. He led the Louisville District to become the Centers of Expertise for Centralized Vehicle Wash Facilities, Bowling Centers, and Class 6 Beverage Stores. And he was a key player in organizing the first MILCON Conference, and developing the standard "partnering" clause for construction contracts.

Mr. Kiser continued his leadership role in the Louisville District's Engineering Division throughout the 1990s, in positions ranging from chief of the first environmental support program to his current position of assistant chief of the Engineering Division. His devotion to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers over several decades has made for a stronger, safer, more prosperous Nation for his fellow Kentuckians, and for all Americans.

A good neighbor and a valued steward of our defense assets and natural

resources, Mr. Kiser will be remembered for his spirit of service, patriotism and dedication to his country. On the occasion of his retirement, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending best wishes to Mr. Ronald W. Kiser.

#### TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR "ART" EDWARD BERNARD

Mr. REID. Mr. President, too often, the civil servants who make a State run properly do not get the recognition they deserve. Arthur "Art" Edward Bernard is one of those men. Today, I rise to honor a man who has left a lasting impact on Nevada through his work in government.

Art Bernard was raised in the mining camps of Utah before striking out on his own at the age of 16. His travels brought him to the Bristol Mine in Pioche, NV. There, he worked in the hardscrabble world of "mucking" or loading the ore carts. Mucking is all about brute strength, and Art won mucking contests throughout Nevada. The toughness and tenacity he showed as a miner served Art well in his appointment as State Mine Inspector in 1947. In this capacity, he worked to improve the safety standards of the mines.

His work was noticed by Governor Charles Russell, and Art was appointed warden of the Nevada State Prison in 1950. At first, Art had doubts about his new position because he had no previous experience in the prison system. Like any good miner, Art refused to become discouraged, and he embraced the new challenges of his position.

Art's tenure could not have come at a better time for the Nevada State prison; he navigated the tumultuous changes occurring in prisons across the country. Demanding better living conditions, prisoners across the country rioted and the Nevada State prison was no different. Rioting prisoners demanded to see the Governor, but Art refused to cave to their demands. Instead, he barricaded the prisoners in the prison yard for 3 days until the protest disbanded peacefully.

As part of the settlement, Art allowed a commission of three prisoners, called the "three wise men," to submit prison grievances directly to him. Art viewed the inmates as students at what he dubbed "Greystone U." Over the years, Art developed a close relationship with the inmates, and he made himself available to any inmate who wanted to see him during daily walks around the grounds. He worked to improve the quality of life at the prison by establishing a boxing program for the inmates and a prison orchestra.

Art's revolutionary ideas jump started the work program at the Nevada State prison. Art applied his mining background to prison life when he started a rock quarry for the prisoners. Each new prisoner was responsible for a certain quota from the quarry each day. In addition, Art allowed prisoners to work on local ranches and farms as

laborers, and the prison received local produce and supplies for the prison in exchange. The prison labor exchange was not the only way Art saved Nevada taxpayer dollars. He also used prison labor to build new facilities at the Nevada State prison.

Art served Nevada in a great time of need and helped modernize Nevada's prison operations with the strength and tenacity that he learned from mining camps across my State. Most importantly, Art sought to improve the lives and treatment of prisoners when other prison systems were languishing with inferior standards and facilities.

Art's contributions to Nevada did not stop after his retirement. Recently, Art finished interviews about his life with the Nevada Mining Oral History project. Future generations will be able to hear about Art's years spent in mines across Nevada, in addition to stories about prison life at "Greystone U." This oral history is another contribution to Nevada history from a man who helped to shape my State. Nevada is a better place because of men like Art Bernard, and he deserves recognition today before the Senate.

#### FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME DISORDERS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, last week, we marked National Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day. Today, I rise to join Senators JOHNSON, MURKOWSKI, MURRAY and DODD as we introduce legislation to address the prevention and treatment of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorders.

I have met with many families in Illinois who have made real for me the challenges, the frustrations and the hope that come with a fetal alcohol syndrome disorder. Vivian Botka brought a picture that her 22-year-old daughter Kristy had colored with crayons. Kristy requires around-the-clock care. Walt Teichen and his family are working to build an independent living home for young adults affected by fetal alcohol syndrome. They want to establish a home for young people such as their son Kevin, who craves independence from his parents yet needs the support and vigilance of adults who understand his limitations.

Last year, then-Minority Leader Tom Daschle proposed the most ambitious, comprehensive plan in America's history to advance FASD research, treatment, and prevention. I am honored to join my colleagues as we introduce this legislation because, as Senator Daschle says, it is easier to raise a healthy child than heal a broken adult. It is more compassionate and, in the end, more cost-effective to prevent FASD and help families living with it than it is to ignore it.

To decrease the occurrence of mental retardation and birth defects, we must address their most preventable cause—alcohol use during pregnancy. FASD affects an estimated 40,000 infants each year. That is 1 out of every 100 births

in the United States. The mental, physical and neurobehavioral effects of FASD include deformities in major organs, slow development, learning difficulties, low IQs, and problems with coordination, memory, attention, and judgment.

We can make a difference in the lives of affected families in Illinois and throughout this country. We can prevent fetal alcohol syndrome disorders. Please join me in supporting the Advancing FASD Prevention and Treatment Act.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

• Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I emphasize today the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

On April 29, 2005, a Harvard University student was assaulted by a man in downtown Boston, MA. The apparent motivation for the attack was that the student was openly gay.

I note that yesterday in the House, hate crimes legislation was passed in a bipartisan vote. We must also move similar legislation in the Senate. In the months ahead I look forward to working with Senator KENNEDY as we continue our work in passing a hate crimes bill.●

##### TRIBUTE TO YAKOV BIRNBAUM

• Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I pay tribute to the contributions of Yakov Birnbaum, an unheralded American freedom fighter, whose work helped free roughly five million Soviet Jews and tens of millions others persecuted for their faith under the former Soviet Union.

In 1964, Birnbaum launched the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry at Columbia University to promote awareness of the persecution of Jews in the Soviet Union. His movement ultimately led to the passage of the pivotal Jackson-Vanik Amendment a decade later, which starved the Soviet government of trade benefits in retaliation for its trampling on human rights.

Birnbaum's efforts led to freedom for individuals like Natan Sharansky and the emigration from the Soviet Union of more than 1.5 million Jews since. His work also inspired other individuals, organizations and governments to decry the persecution of people of faith by the Soviet government.

By drawing international attention to repression within the Soviet Union, Birnbaum helped remind us all that the defense of human rights and the free-

dom to worship had to be battleground issues in the Cold War. The final fall of the Soviet system and the flowering of religious freedom that followed were both thanks to the long and tenacious efforts of men and women like Birnbaum.

For all his work in the cause of freedom we recognize him today.●

##### POLYMER INDUSTRY IN WEST VIRGINIA AND POLYMER APPRECIATION WEEK

• Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the important role the polymer industry plays in my State of West Virginia. As part of Polymer Appreciation Week in the State, Governor Joe Manchin and I have invited a small group of international polymer executives to West Virginia to showcase investment opportunities available to their companies.

West Virginia's polymer industry plays an important and vital role in West Virginia's economy. World renowned companies such as GE Plastics, DuPont, Sunoco, and M&G Polymers have chosen to locate here. West Virginia's excellent infrastructure, broad range of raw materials, highly skilled workforce, and close proximity to 62 percent of the United States industrial market, makes West Virginia a key player in the global market.

The Polymer Alliance Zone of West Virginia—PAZ—is the site of the highest concentration of production of high technology, speciality and engineering polymers in the world. The Mid-Ohio Valley has a long history in the production of industrial chemicals, petrochemicals, and polymers dating back to the 1940s. The region has a proud manufacturing heritage, and today, that expertise and dedication has gained the Polymer Alliance Zone national recognition.

The mission of the Polymer Alliance Zone is to create the most favorable business climate in the world for the plastics industry through a unique partnership among business, education, and government. Since its inception in 1996, the focus of the organization has been the support of both new and existing polymer industries. According to recent calculations by the West Virginia Development office, PAZ has partnered with local, State and private industry to complete 33 projects that have generated more than \$529 million of investments.

The Polymer Alliance Zone offers great opportunities for companies looking to locate in West Virginia. The Mid-Ohio Valley location offers easy access to an increasingly global market, and the State's abundant resources provide companies with affordable, reliable energy. In addition, West Virginia's favorable business climate welcomes and supports polymer companies through a number of valuable assistance programs. More importantly, it is the people of West Virginia who make the Polymer Alliance Zone what

it is—a vibrant economy, a growing community, and an opportunity that national polymer companies should not miss.

Over the last 9 years, the Polymer Alliance Zone has assisted the West Virginia Development Office and our county development authorities in creating and retaining over 1,000 jobs in the region. This is a large achievement, and in return my State recognizes 9 years of service that PAZ has provided to both the polymer industry and to the State of West Virginia by celebrating Polymer Appreciation Week.●

##### WELLNESS PROGRAM AT BRADLEY UNIVERSITY

• Mr. OBAMA. Mr. President, every year, the Inter-Association Task Force on Alcohol and Other Substance Abuse Issues, IATF, gives awards to three universities for their programs against underage drinking and over-consumption of alcoholic beverages. Bradley University, which is located in Peoria, IL, is among the three universities being commended and has the honor of being a National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week Winner for 2004-2005.

I applaud the Wellness Program at Bradley University for its commitment to reduce underage drinking. Alcohol misuse on college campuses is not a new problem. It is entrenched in the culture of many institutions of higher learning and in students' social lives. The abuse of alcohol among college students is taking its toll not only on the students who drink alcohol in excess but also their student peers, college administrators, health care personnel who counsel student drinkers, and the community at large.

Help, Encourage, and Teach, HEAT, and Social Norming, SONOR, are two programs that have proven to be effective at Bradley University. HEAT strives to provide students with opportunities to promote positive lifestyle choices, such as peer-led workshops and demonstrations. The SONOR program utilizes creative marketing and advertising strategies to disseminate information about healthy living. These programs are making a difference in the lives of our youth by encouraging college students to make healthy and responsible decisions.

Congratulations to Dr. Alan Galsky, Associate Provost for Student Affairs; Melissa Sage-Bollenbach, the Wellness Program Coordinator at Bradley University; Kelcy Hale, the President of Social Norming; and Chrisandra Ashby, the former president of HEAT for their tireless efforts and outstanding leadership.

Bradley University is to be commended for its innovative and influential alcohol-abuse programs. Representatives of Bradley University recently came to Washington, DC, and visited their Senator's offices to present their alcohol awareness programs. These award recipients also received a plaque and an award check